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Gets Advance Warning of Trouble

The Central Intelligence Agency might find it well worthwhile to keep a careful watch upon the activities of Leonard Barratt of London.

Not that Barratt is engaged in any illegal activities, but due solely to the fact he conducts one of the world's most unusual businesses. Due to the nature of that business he is given advance warning by weeks, sometimes by months, about possible world trouble spots.

Barratt is the world's leading stylist of custom-made, bullet-proof vests. As such he is much sought after by the world's leading statesmen and politicians during times of world stress. And for Barratt business is good these days . . . which means things are bad all over.

By mail and by person, Barratt is receiving orders now from South and Central America, from Central Africa, from practically all sections of the globe.

While Barratt won't reveal his clients by name, he makes no secret of the fact that some of his best orders in recent months have arrived from Cuba. This no doubt means that Fidel Castro and

his top aides are wearing the latest in bullet-proof styles.

Members of the Russian embassy inquired about Barratt's products, but they indicated that Khrushchev and the other top officials of their country wanted a vest strong enough to stop a rifle bullet.

Barratt told the Russians that a rifle-proof vest would be too heavy for comfort, and did not get an order.

Barratt's creations strong enough to stop a pistol bullet weigh 13½ pounds and costs \$75.60. A vest that stops a knife thrust weighs eight pounds and costs \$53.20.

"I don't even have to read the newspapers to find out what's going on in the world," he declared as he scanned his daily mail.

Surveying his large backlog of orders, Barratt dolefully shook his head.

His distress because his business was so good was almost painfully apparent.

Which did not speak well for the cause of world peace.